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Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

In Memoriam

JACOB WELTY RUGH

First Lieutenant 37th Pennsylvania Infantry

DIED AT NEW ALEXANDRIA PA. SEPTEMBER 28 1912

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

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Philadelphia, August 19, 1914.

JACOB WELTY RUGH.

First Lieutenant 37th Pennsylvania Infantry (8th Reserve) August 2, 1862; resigned and honorably discharged May 16, 1863.

Elected November 14, 1900. Class 1. Insignia 12983.

Born May 5, 1828, at Greensburg, Pa.

Died September 28, 1912, at New Alexandria, Pa.

Companion Jacob Welty Rugh was descended from German stock, his ancestors having come to this country in 1732. His great-grandfather, Michael Rugh, settled in Westmoreland Co., about 1770 and built the first house in what is now Greensburg. His maternal grandfather was Henry Brinker, a soldier of the Revolutionary war.

He taught school and studied law in his earlier years but turned to the study of medicine in 1848. He attended his first course of lectures in 1849 and '50 at the Western Reserve Medical College, Cleveland, Ohio, and the second course the following year at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated in 1851. He practiced medicine in Pleasant Unity, Pa., near his old home, for four years and then removed to New Alexandria in 1855 and practiced in this place until his death. He married Rebecca Gilchrist in 1853 and had eight children, seven of whom are still living. His wife died in 1872, and later he married Anna M. Reed, who survives him.

In June, 1862, he qualified in the examination for assistant surgeon to the army and was assigned for duty with the 8th Reg't. P. R. V. C. He joined the U. S. service at Harrison's Landing, Va., just prior to the evacuation of the Peninsula; followed in the campaign of Maryland at the battles of South Mountain and Antietam and in the fall and winter campaign into Virginia, and at the battle of Fredericksburg, Va., December 13, 1862. He resigned May 16, 1863, on account of ill health.

From the date of his retirement from the army until 1893, Dr. Rugh was never absent from his practice for a day and was always ready and willing to respond to a summons no matter what the weather or distance. He was a

student of medical literature and made practical application of the knowledge thus gained. He was endowed with a logical mind and possessed a large fund of common sense which is one of the greatest and best equipments of the physician. He was extremely practical in all his endeavors and was thus able to turn many threatened failures into success. He governed his life by principle and maintained his attitude unswervingly when he decided he was in the right.

Dr. Rugh was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church of New Alexandria for over forty years and was a consistent Christian in all of his acts. He was "a Doctor of the Old School" in reality and was esteemed and respected by all. He was reserved in manner but in the sick room was sympathetic and cheerful and imparted confidence to his patients both by his professional ability and by his Christian character, for he was wont to minister spiritually to those requesting as well as professionally.

He took pride in his membership in the Loyal Legion.

JOSEPH H. WEAVER,
Captain Ind. Co. Penna. Vet. Infantry.

Committee.

By command of

Colonel HENRY S. HUIDEKOPER, U. S. V.
Commander

JOHN P. NICHOLSON
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. V.
Recorder

Official

Recorder

